

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Ali Bayat
SHIGERU MIZOGUCHI, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2624
Appln. No.: 10/608,001	)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 8198
Filed: June 30, 2003	)	
	:	
For: IMAGE AREA EXTRACTION	)	
METHOD, IMAGE	:	
RECONSTRUCTION METHOD	)	
USING THE EXTRACTION RESULT	:	February 12, 2007
AND APPARATUS THEREOF	)	

**Mail Stop Amendment**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action dated January 12, 2007.

A careful review of the specification reveals that the two species are closely related and would not require separate fields of search. Accordingly, neither Applicants nor the Patent and Trademark Office should be put to the trouble and expense entailed in multiple filing and prosecution. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the public at

large should not be required to obtain and study separate patent documents in order to have available all of the issued patent claims covering the invention.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect Species I, represented by Figure 1B. It is respectfully submitted that all the claims, namely, Claims 1-38, read on the elected species.

Favorable consideration is requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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